

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 AID-05

SAM-01 CPR-01 IO-10 IGA-01 SNM-02 DEAE-00 TRSE-00

OES-03 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

COME-00 XMB-02 /115 W

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KIECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3008

C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 4318

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, PFOR,NP, US (ARYAL, KRISHNA RAJ)

SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON

1. FOREIGN MINISTER ARYAL'S ONE-DAY VISIT TO WASHINGTON ON OCTOBER 8 TAKES PLACE IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF GOOD U.S.-NEPALESE RELATIONS. PROBLEMS PERCEIVED BY NEPALESE RELATE TO THEIR DRIVE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; ISSUES ON U.S. SIDE ARE NEPAL'S PROSPECTIVE POSITIONS ON MULTILATERAL ISSUES OF KEY INTEREST TO US.

2. MATTERS ARYAL MAY RAISE.

A. WE KNOW OF NO BILATERAL POLITICAL ISSUES OF SIGNIFICANCE. ARYAL MAY SOLICIT U.S. UNDERSTANDING AND PERHAPS "MORAL SUPPORT" FOR KING BIRENDRA'S CORONATION PROPOSAL THAT NEPAL BE DECLARED A "ZONE OF PEACE." ON THIS WE HAVE A CLEAR AND RESONABLE LINE (STATE 221652) SINCE NEPAL STILL HAS MUCH INITIAL SPADE WORK TO DO WITH ITS TWO BIG NEIGHBORS, PARTICULARLY WITH INDIA.

B. ON THE ECONOMIC SIDE, WE EXPECT ARYAL TO RAISE ONLY AID AND DEVELOPMENT RELATED ISSUES, PROBABLY COVERING SOME OF THE

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POINTS DISCUSSED BY FINANCE MINISTER OF STATE BHEKH THAPA DURING HIS VISIT IN EARLY SEPTEMBER (STATE 210995). ARYAL MAY ADVERT AGAIN TO NEPAL'S GENERAL CONCERN AS TO THE FORM AND LEVEL OF U.S. AID AFTER AVAILABLE INDIAN RUPEES ARE EXPENDED. HE MAY EXPRESS NEPAL'S INTEREST IN DOLLAR GRANT AID TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, BUT SHOULD EVIDENCE NEPAL'S READINESS TO TAKE ON DOLLAR LOANS. ARYAL HAS PERSONALLY TAKEN UP WITH THE UN SYG NEPAL'S DESIRE TO BE RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF THE "MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED COUNTRIES" AND HE MAY SEEK U.S. SUPPORT TO THIS END. HE MAY ALSO GIVE SUPPORT TO BHEKH THAPA'S REQUEST THAT AN APPROPRIATE AID CONSULTATIVE GROUP BE SET UP FOR NEPAL.

3. ISSUES WE MAY WISH TO RAISE WITH ARYAL.

A. WE HOPE OPPORTUNITY WILL BE TAKEN TO DISCUSS KEY UN ISSUES WITH ARYAL, PARTICULARLY KOREA, PUERTO RICO AND, AS APPROPRIATE, MIDDLE EAST QUESTIONS. ARYAL'S UN GENERAL DEBATE SPEECH IS SCHEDULED TO BE GIVEN OCTOBER 6 AND WILL BE WORTH CHECKING IN THIS CONTEXT.

B. ARYAL WILL BE APPEARING IN WASHINGTON FRESH FROM THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN LIMA AND BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH THE YUGOSLAVS IN BELGRADE. SOME DIALOGUE WITH HIM ON HOW THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT CAN BE TURNED, IF IT CAN, TOWARD MORE RESPONSIBLE ACTION MIGHT BE USEFUL. THE NEPALESE HAVE FREQUENTLY FELT UNCOMFORTABLE AND FRUSTRATED AT NON-ALIGNED GATHERINGS, THEY TELL US, BUT THEY HAVE BEEN LARGELY PASSIVE PARTICIPANTS.

C. A RESTATEMENT OF OUR DEEP CONCERN WITH THE NARCOTICS PROBLEM WOULD SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS HERE IN KATHMANDU. THE POINT OF PERHAPS GREATEST CONCERN TO US IS NEPAL AS A SOURCE FOR HASH OIL, SOME OF WHICH HAS REACHED THE UNITED STATES.

D. IT IS ALWAYS USEFUL TO GET A READING FROM A KEY NEPALESE OFFICIAL OF NEPAL'S CURRENT APPRAISAL OF ITS INDIA AND CHINA RELATIONSHIPS.

4. EMBASSY WILL ADVISE DEPARTMENT FURTHER IF ADDITIONAL OR DIFFERENT INFORMATION IS ACQUIRED FOLLOWING ARYAL'S RETURN
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FROM YUGOGLAVIA ON OCTOBER 1.

5. WE WILL SEND TOMORROW CABLES GIVING OUR SUMMARY AND APPRAISAL OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC TRENDS IN NEPAL. CARGO

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